THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday the 8th August 1955.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Impounding of cattle straying in public thoroughfares.

* 331 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that two children of Sunkuvar street, Triplicane, one Krishnan, aged 3 years and one Kamala, aged 6 years were gored by a pair of stray cattle on or about April 13, 1955;

(*b*) whether any instructions have been given to the City Police department to go slow in rounding up and impounding cattle straying in public thoroughfares; and

(*c*) whether the Government now propose to issue any instructions to the Commissioner of Police, Madras, to round up and impound stray cattle more frequently and more effectively than at present?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" (*a*) The children referred to were not gored by cattle. The fact is that some buffaloes proceeding towards sea-side dashed against them and they fell down sustaining abrasions on their faces.

" (*b*) No, Sir.

" (*c*) The Commissioner of Police has issued instructions to round up all stray cattle."

DR. A. SREENIVASAN :—" Sir, is it within the knowledge of the Government that the cattle owners of the City of Madras protested against the action of the police when they impounded the cattle? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" It may be, Sir, that certain cattle owners protested against certain action of the police."

DR. A. SREENIVASAN :—" Sir, is it not within the knowledge of every motorist that these straying animals act as unauthorized Brake Inspectors to the considerable deterioration of the cars when sudden brakes are applied? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir, that may be so. In the same way, children too should not be permitted by their parents to play in the open streets."

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Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, may I know whether the police authorities have issued any public notice as to the precautions to be taken by cattle owners and will the Government take the public and also the affected parties with them in such matters and try by propaganda and persuasion to get things done in order before launching any sudden drive of the kind contemplated in this question? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, the Commissioner of Police has reported that the owners of cattle in Sunkuvar street and other streets of Triplicane have all been warned against letting loose their cattle."

Sri A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—" Sir, is not cattle trespass a growing nuisance in the City? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" It is no doubt a nuisance as there are other nuisances in the City."

Sri A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—" Sir, I say that it is a growing nuisance as it is difficult for cars to be driven in open streets."

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not think, Sir, it can be a growing nuisance. I do not see any growth of population of the cattle."

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN :—" Sir, does not the Hon. Minister think that children playing in the open streets are equivalent to straying cattle? " (Laughter.)

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, there is no question of comparing one with the other. I want the parents also to see that their children are not let loose in the streets and get themselves exposed to accidents."

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN :—" Sir, have the Government any serious objection for banning cattle from the City of Madras? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Certainly, the Government cannot do that now."

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that there are thousands of families in Madras who have no houses to live in and naturally their children are always on the roadside? " (Laughter.)

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" If the parents have no houses to live in and live in the open streets, let them have the children also along with them. They should not let loose their children in the streets."